Shaker Heights Schools

2nd Grade Reading List

Recommended by your Shaker Schools Librarians
Aardema, Verna  *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain*
This rhyming, cumulative tale from Kenya has stylized paintings of African scenery and a rollicking “voice” relating what happens when the rains stay away.  *Picture Book*

Aboff, Marcie  *The Giant Jellybean Jar*
Ben wants to win the jellybean prize for guessing the answer to a riddle about the flavor of a jellybean, but he’s too shy to step up. Will he win? Can you answer the riddles?  *Fiction*

Adler, David A.  *Cam Jansen and the Tennis Trophy Mystery*
Cam Jansen, with Eric at her side, helps solve the mystery of what happened to Mr. Day’s tennis trophy.  *Fiction*

Adler, David A.  *Helen Keller*
Helen was left blind and deaf after an illness when she was 2 years old. She learns how to “talk with her hands,” use Braille, and speak.  *Biography*

Adler, David A.  *A Picture Book of George Washington*
This brief account of the life of the “Father of Our Country,” is one of a series of biographies.  *Biography*

Aliki  *Ah, Music*
Ah, if you love music, you’ll want to read Aliki’s simple descriptions of musical terms, styles, and history, all enhanced by action drawings of students, instruments and scenes.  *Nonfiction*

Aliki  *A Play’s the Thing*
José doesn’t want to take part in a “Mary Had a Little Lamb” play, but his teacher, the team spirit of his classmates, and the response of the audience - including his proud mother - change his attitude.  *Picture Book*

Andersen, Hans Christian  *The Ugly Duckling*
An ugly duckling is unhappy because no other animals will play with him. Life changes when he grows into a beautiful swan. Jerry Pinkney received a Caldecott Honor Medal for his illustrations.  *Folk Tale*

Andrews-Goebel, Nancy  *The Pot That Juan Built*
You’ll find yourself repeating the lines of this poem-biography about Juan Quezada, a noted Mexican potter. It is told in a lilting rhyme that mirrors “The House That Jack Built.”  *Biography*

Avi  *Abigail Takes the Wheel*
When the first mate of the freight boat Neptune falls ill, it is up to Abigail, the captain’s daughter, to steer the ship up the Hudson River.  *Fiction*

Aylesworth, Jim  *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*
You may know this classic tale of a girl who makes herself at home in the Bears’ house. You’ll enjoy the author’s extra comments about Goldilocks’ adventure.  *Folk Tale*

Baer, Edith  *This is the Way We Eat Our Lunch*
The rhymes in this book describe what children around the world do at lunchtime.  *Picture Book*

Bang, Molly  *Wiley and the Hairy Man: Adapted from an American Folk Tale*
Wiley outwits the hairy creature that dominates the swamp near his home by the Tombigbee River in this humorous retelling of a Southern folk tale.  *Folk Tale*

Barber, Tiki, and Ronde Barber  *By My Brother’s Side*
Twin brothers Tiki and Ronde Barber worked hard to overcome obstacles and become National Football League stars.  *Biography*

Blume, Judy  *Going, Going, Gone! With The Pain and The Great One*
Adventures of first-grader Jake “The Pain” and his older sister Abigail “The Great One” include trips to the beach with Grandma, to a county fair with Aunt Diana, and to a mall with Dad.  *Fiction*

Borden, Louise  *Goodbye, Charles Lindbergh*

Shaker Heights Schools Library Media Program
A farm boy meets his hero, Colonel Charles Lindbergh, when Lindbergh lands his bi-plane in a field near Canton, Mississippi, in 1929. *Fiction*

**Bridges, Shirin Yim  Ruby’s Wish**  
Ruby is unlike most little girls in old China. She wants to go to school instead of getting married. Her family rewards her hard work. *Fiction*

**Brisson, Pat  Hot Fudge Hero**  
In each of three episodes which involve an unfriendly neighbor, his sister, or his mom, Bertie succeeds in being rewarded with his favorite treat, a hot fudge sundae. *Fiction*

**Brown, Marc  Arthur’s Mystery Envelope**  
It looks like trouble when the principal asks Arthur to take home a large envelope marked “confidential.” There are many fun books in this Arthur series! *Fiction*

**Byars, Betsy  Tornado**  
During a tornado, Pete, the farm worker, tells about his childhood memories of a storm that brought him a pet dog. *Fiction*

**Chandra, Debra, and Madeleine Comora  George Washington’s Teeth**  
A rollicking rhyme tells about this President’s lifelong struggle with bad teeth. Check out the timeline at the end of this charming book. *Biography*

**Choi, Yangsook  The Name Jar**  
When Unhei moves from Korea to the United States, she decides to change her name. Her new classmates put their suggestions in a glass jar to help her make a choice. *Picture Book*

**Christopher, Matt  The Dog That Stole Football Plays**  
A boy and his dog are able to steal plays from the opposing football team. *Fiction*

**Cleary, Beverly  Ramona the Brave**  
Ramona feels unloved but is coaxed into realizing her importance by her parents and sister. *Fiction*

**Coerr, Eleanor  The Josefina Story Quilt**  
Josefina, Faith’s pet hen, is the heroine of the quilt Faith is making about the family’s wagon journey to the west. *Fiction*

**Cole, Joanna  The Magic School Bus and the Climate Challenge**  
Ms. Frizzle and her students board the Magic School Bus for a lesson on climate change and what can be done to save the Earth. *Picture Book*

**Cole, Joanna  The Magic School Bus Lost in the Solar System**  
This science adventure is an animated, fact-filled introduction to the planets. Read other books in the Magic School Bus series! *Picture Book*

**Coles, Robert  The Story of Ruby Bridges**  
In 1960, Ruby Bridges was 6 years old. She was the first African-American student in her New Orleans neighborhood elementary school. *Picture Book*

**Cooney, Barbara  Eleanor**  
*Eleanor* tells of the childhood of Eleanor Roosevelt, who was known for helping others. She became First Lady of the United States when her husband, Franklin, became President. *Biography*

**Cowley, Joy  Agapanthus Hum and the Angel Hoot**  
When she loses a tooth, Agapanthus discovers that she can make an angel hoot by blowing through the hole in her smile. If you like this, there are more in this series. *Fiction*

**Cummins, Julie  The Inside-Outside Book of Libraries**  
From bookmobiles and small libraries to the World Wide Web, this book gives an overview of the resources available at libraries. *Nonfiction*

**Daly, Niki  Pretty Salma**  
In this version of *Little Red Riding Hood*, set in Ghana, a young girl fails to heed Granny’s warning about the dangers of talking to strangers. *Folk Tale*

**Diakité, Penda  I Lost My Tooth in Africa**
While visiting her father’s family in Mali, a girl loses a tooth, places it under a calabash, and receives a hen and a rooster from the African Tooth Fairy.  *Picture Book*

**DiCamillo, Kate  *Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride***
Mr. Watson’s usual Saturday drive in his Cadillac with his favorite pig, Mercy, turns into an adventure when an unexpected passenger shows up in the back seat and Mercy finds herself behind the wheel.  *Fiction*

**Diffily, Deborah  *Jurassic Shark***
Read about Hybodus, an ancestor of the white shark, as she swims in search of food and shelter in the prehistoric ocean.  *Nonfiction*

**Ehlerdt, Lois  *Moon Rope: A Peruvian Folktale***
Enjoy Ehlerdt’s delightful illustrations in this adaptation of the Peruvian folk tale in which Fox and Mole try to climb to the moon on a rope woven of grass.  *Folk Tale*

**English, Karen  *Nikki & Deja***
When an arrogant new girl comes to school, best friends Nikki and Deja decide to form a club that will exclude her.  The results are not quite what they expect.  *Fiction*

**Farris, Christine King  *My Brother Martin***
Look at the early life of Martin Luther King, Jr. through the eyes of his older sister.  *Biography*

**Flournoy, Valerie  *The Patchwork Quilt***
Using scraps cut from the family’s old clothing, Tanya helps her grandmother make a beautiful quilt that tells the story of her family’s life.  In *Tanya’s Reunion*, Tanya visits her grandmother’s childhood home.  *Picture Book*

**Frazee, Marla  *A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever***
Friends James and Eamon enjoy a wonderful week at the home of Eamon’s grandparents during summer vacation.  *Picture Book*

**Friedman, Ina  *How My Parents Learned to Eat***
An American sailor courts a Japanese girl. Each tries, in secret, to learn the other’s way of eating.  *Picture Book*

**Gibbons, Gail  *The Planets***
Look up in the sky.  Some of the lights that you see at night are not stars - they are planets. Learn about Earth and all the other planets.  *Nonfiction*

**Graham, Bob  *Tales from the Waterhole***
On summer days near their Africa Savannah waterhole Morris the crocodile and his friends have fun with daredevil diving and playing soccer.  *Fiction*

**Greene, Stephanie  *Princess Posey and the First Grade Parade***
Posey is afraid to start first grade. When her teacher invites students to wear their most comfortable clothes to school on the first day, she feels better.  *Fiction*

**Greenfield, Eloise  *Grandpa’s Face***
Tamika sees her beloved grandfather making a mean face while rehearsing for one of his plays. She worries that someday she will lose his love, and he will make that mean face at her.  *Picture Book*

**Haley, Gail  *A Story, A Story***
Anansi, the spider man, must capture three creatures before he receives his prize.  *Folk Tale*

**Hall, Donald  *Ox-Cart Man***
Visit with an early 19th century New England family. See what they do through the changing seasons.  *Picture Book*

**Heide, Florence Parry  *The Day of Ahmed’s Secret***
What is Ahmed’s secret? Share his delight through the day in Cairo, as he waits to tell his family his news.  *Fiction*

**Heller, Ruth  *Chickens Aren’t the Only Ones***
Who lays eggs? Learn about animals like chickens, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, insects, and even mammals that lay eggs.  *Nonfiction*

**Henkes, Kevin  *Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse***
Lilly loves school—especially her teacher, Mr. Slinger. But her new purse causes problems.  *Picture Book*
Hoberman, Mary Ann   **You Read to Me, I’ll Read to You: Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together**  
These rhyming tales may sound familiar, and they’re written for two people to share the reading—and the fun!  **Poetry**

Hoffman, Mary   **Amazing Grace**  
Although classmates say that she cannot play Peter Pan in their class play because she is a girl and is black, Grace discovers she can do anything she decides to do. Grace’s story continues in **Boundless Grace**.  **Picture Book**

Hong, Lily   **Two of Everything**  
This retelling of a Chinese tale finds a poor old man digging up a huge pot he found in his field. By chance, he discovers that anything put into the pot doubles, and that’s **TROUBLE!**  **Picture Book**

Hopkins, Lee Bennett   **Good Books, Good Times!**  
This easy-reading collection of rollicking poems is all about the joys of reading.  **Poetry**

Howard, Elizabeth Fitzgerald   **Aunt Flossie’s Hats (and Crab Cakes Later)**  
Sarah and Susan share tea, cookies, crab cakes, and stories about hats when they visit their favorite relative, Aunt Flossie.  **Picture Book**

Howe, James   **Pinky and Rex and the Just-Right Pet**  
Seven-year-old Pinky, a confirmed dog lover, has a change of heart after his family’s new pet kitten pounces on his foot in the middle of the night.  **Fiction**

Hurwitz, Joanna   **Summer with Elisa**  
During the summer between first and second grades, Elisa struggles to write to her brother Russell at camp and then enjoys a family vacation in the country. Enjoy all the books about Elisa and her family.  **Fiction**

Hurwitz, Johanna   **Pee Wee’s Tale**  
When his owner’s parents let Pee Wee out in Central Park, the young guinea pig tries to get back home. He learns how to live in the park from a “park-wise” squirrel.  **Fiction**

Hurwitz, Joanna   **Russell Sprouts**  
Laugh at Russell’s adventures at school and in his apartment house in this book and others, like **Rip-Roaring Russell** and **Russell Rides Again**.  **Fiction**

Isadora, Rachel   **At the Crossroads**  
South African children gather to welcome home their fathers who have been away working in the mines.  **Picture Book**

Jacobson, Jennifer   **Andy Shane and the Pumpkin Trick**  
Andy gets help from Grandma Webb and some marbles to trick the people who keep stealing his friend’s Halloween pumpkin.  **Fiction**

Jenkins, Steve   **How to Clean a Hippopotamus: A Look at Unusual Animal Partnerships**  
How does a turtle keep a hippopotamus clean?  Why do a badger and coyote team up?  How do crabs and iguanas assist each other, and why do ravens follow wolves? Sometimes animals form special relationships—it’s called symbiosis.  **Nonfiction**

Johnson, Angela   **Violet’s Music**  
Violet loved music from the time she banged her rattle on her crib. Who will she find to help her make more music?  **Picture Book**

Johnston, Tony   **The Quilt Story**  
A pioneer mother stitches a beautiful quilt that warms and comforts her daughter Abigail.  **Picture Book**

Keller, Laurie   **The Scrambled States of America Talent Show**  
The states decide to get together and put on a show featuring their particular talents. Also included are facts about the history and geography of each state.  **Picture Book**

King, Martin Luther, Jr.   **I Have a Dream**  
This version of Dr. King’s dream speech is illustrated by fifteen Coretta Scott King award-winning artists.  **Biography**

King-Smith, Dick   **The Mouse Family Robinson**  
After a close call with the cat who stalks the hallways, a family of wild mice, including adventurous, young Beaumont and elderly Uncle Brown, moves to a more mouse-friendly house down the block.  **Fiction**

Kline, Suzy   **Song Lee and the I Hate You Notes**  
Song Lee is upset when she receives hateful notes in class, but she finds a positive way to deal with them.  You can also read about her friend in **Horrible Harry in Room 2B**.  **Fiction**
Kudlinski, Kathleen V.  
**Boy, Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs!**
Kudlinski examines what is now known about dinosaurs and discusses how the facts often differ from what was once believed to be true.  
*Nonfiction*

Lauber, Patricia  
**You’re Aboard Spaceship Earth**
We on planet Earth are on board an object that is moving through space at about 67,000 miles an hour!  
*Nonfiction*

Libbrecht, Kenneth George  
**The Secret Life of a Snowflake: an Up-close Look at the Art & Science of Snowflakes**
Do you know what a snowflake really looks like?  Did you know that there are different kinds of snowflakes?  Did you know that every snowflake is unique?  
*Nonfiction*

Lin, Grace  
**Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same!**
Ling and Ting are identical twins that people think are exactly the same, but time and again they prove to be different.  
*Fiction*

Lionni, Leo  
**Cornelius: A Fable**
Cornelius leaves the other crocodiles and learns to do new things.  When he returns home, his friends do not appreciate his skills.  
*Picture Book*

Lipsy, Jennifer  
**I Love to Collage!**
Young artists will have a blast learning basic techniques of collage and producing fabulous finished pieces.  
*Nonfiction*

Llewellyn, Claire  
**Butterfly**
Have you watched butterflies in your backyard? This book follows a monarch butterfly through each stage of its life.  Enjoy other nature books by Ms. Llewellyn too.  
*Nonfiction*

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth  
**Paul Revere’s Ride**
This is the classic poem of Paul Revere’s famous midnight ride, when he warned the people of the Boston countryside that the British were coming.  
*Poetry*

Lowry, Linda  
**Aunt Clara Brown: Official Pioneer**
Clara Brown, a freed slave, made her fortune in Colorado and used her money to bring other former slaves there to begin new lives.  
*Biography*

Martin, Bill, and Michael Sampson  
**I Pledge Allegiance**
Each line of this illustrated pledge tells you what the words we recite really mean to us as Americans.  
*Nonfiction*

Martin, Bill  
**Knots on a Counting Rope**
Boy-Strength-of-Blue-Horses begs his grandfather to tell him again the story of the night he was born.  
*Fiction*

Mastro, Jim  
**Antarctic Ice**
Learn about life on Earth’s coldest continent, including the Adelie penguin, the Weddell seal and the Orca whale. Lots of photographs by Norbert Wu will make you feel that you’re there on the ice!  
*Nonfiction*

McCarthy, Meghan  
**Astronaut Handbook**
Blast off to astronaut school where you will take a ride on the “Vomit Comet,” learn how it feels to be weightless, and have your measurements taken for your very own space suit.  
*Nonfiction*

McCully, Emily  
**Mirette on the High Wire**
Mirette learns tightrope walking from Monsieur Bellini, a celebrated artist who has withdrawn from performing because of fear.  
*Picture Book*

McDermott, Gerald  
**Coyote**
There are several trickster tales by Gerald McDermott, including *Raven* and *Zomo*.  In this one, Coyote tricks crows into helping him fly.  
*Folk Tale*

McKissack, Patricia  
**Mirandy and Brother Wind**
Mirandy calls on Brother Wind to help her and clumsy Ezel win the junior cakewalk.  
*Picture Book*

McLimans, David  
**Gone Wild: An Endangered Animal Alphabet**
Endangered animals appear as unique letters in this bold book, and you’ll also read about the habitats of these rare creatures. Illustrations won a 2007 Caldecott Honor medal.  
*Nonfiction*

Medearis, Angela Shelf  
**Dancing with the Indians**
An African-American family visits the Seminole people who helped their grandfather when he was an escaping slave.  
*Picture Book*
Milton, Joyce  **Wild, Wild Wolves**  
This history of wolves examines their social habits, hunting tactics, and growth, as well as the myths and legends that surround them. *Nonfiction*

Milway, Kate  **One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Difference**  
Based on a true incident, this story tells of a poor Ghanaian boy who buys a chicken through a community loan program -- an act which eventually helps lift him, his mother, and his community out of poverty. *Fiction*

Ofill, Jenny  **17 Things I'm Not Allowed to Do Any More**  
When the stapler being used to staple her brother's hair to the pillow is taken away, a curious and lively young girl receives one of many lessons about things she is not allowed to do! *Picture Book*

Osborne, Mary Pope  **Thanksgiving on Thursday**  
Jack and Annie travel to the year 1621, where they celebrate the first Thanksgiving with the Pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians in Plymouth *Colony*. Other adventures in the Magic Tree House series include *Afternoon on the Amazon* and *Night of the Ninjas*. *Fiction*

Palantini, Margie  **Bad Boys**  
Wolf brothers Willie and Wally disguise themselves as two of Bo Peep's lost sheep and hide out with the flock. Enjoy the puns and the fun! *Picture Book*

Parish, Peggy  **Calling Doctor Amelia Bedelia**  
Amelia Bedelia helps out at her doctor's office one busy day. Nothing seems to go quite right until Amelia begins to treat the impatient patients. *Fiction*

Park, Barbara  **Junie B. Jones: One-Man Band**  
When Junie B. cannot play in the school kickball tournament because of a sore toe, she brings her unique talents to the halftime show. *Fiction*

Pinkney, Jerry  **Little Red Hen**  
Enjoy a newly-illustrated edition of the classic fable of the hen who must do all the work baking bread and of the other animals who learn a lesson. *Folk Tale*

Polacco, Patricia  **The Bee Tree**  
When Mary Ellen tires of reading, Grampa has a unique way of sweetening her book by finding a bee tree! *Picture Book*

Prelutsky, Jack  **My Dog May Be a Genius**  
Prelutsky, the nation's first Children’s Poet Laureate, teamed with illustrator James Stevenson to bring readers an irresistible collection of poems that will have tongues twisting, imaginations soaring, and sides aching with laughter. *Poetry*

Priceman, Marjorie  **Emeline at the Circus**  
While Miss Splinter lectures her second-grade class about the exotic animals, the clowns, and the other performers they are watching at the circus, Emeline accidentally becomes part of the show. *Picture Book*

Ringgold, Faith  **Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky**  
Cassie's little brother accidentally boards the commemorative train in the sky. She must rely on her wits, the North Star, and Harriet Tubman's lead to guide her to Canada and their reunion. *Picture Book*

Roop, Peter, and Connie Roop  **Buttons for General Washington**  
During the Revolutionary War young John Darragh carries messages to General Washington's camp in the buttons of his coat. *Fiction*

Roy, Ron  **The Election-Day Disaster**  
When doctored photographs of the President of the United States appear after an innocent Halloween party, his stepdaughter KC and her friend Marshall have to find the culprit in order to save the President's chances for re-election. You will also enjoy other books in *The Capital Mysteries* series. *Fiction*

Roy, Ron  **The School Skeleton**  
At Green Lawn Elementary, the entire school becomes involved in a mystery when Mr. Bones, the skeleton in the nurse's office, disappears. Read all 26 A to Z mysteries! *Fiction*

Rylant, Cynthia  **High Rise Private Eyes: Case of the Fidgety Fox**  
When the fluffy dice of Melvin the bus driver turn up missing, Bunny and Jack, two animal detectives, investigate the case. *Fiction*
Salley, Colleen  
**Epossumondas**
Epossumondas always follows his mother’s instructions—sometimes too closely! Find out how he ends up with a cake in crumbs, a soaking wet puppy, and a scruffy wad of bread.  
*Folk Tale*

Sanders, Scott R.  
**A Place Called Freedom**
After being freed from slavery in 1832, young James Starman and his family journey from Tennessee to Indiana to start a new life.  
*Picture Book*

Say, Allen  
**Grandfather’s Journey**
As a young man, grandfather left Japan to travel to America. He eventually returns to Japan, yet he remembers the beauty of his other home.  
*Fiction*

Scherlitz, Alice  
**Down the Road**
Hetty goes to the store by herself for eggs. When she stops to pick apples, she drops the eggs. How is she going to explain to her parents that there are no eggs for breakfast?  
*Picture Book*

Seuss, Dr.  
**The Butter Battle Book**
Engaged in a long-running battle, the Yooks and the Zooks develop more and more sophisticated weaponry as they attempt to outdo each other.  
*Picture Book*

Sharmat, Marjorie  
**Nate the Great and the Owl Express**
While traveling on the train to San Francisco with his cousin Olivia’s owl, Nate the Great and his dog Sludge must use all of their detective skills when the owl suddenly disappears.  
*Fiction*

Shelby, Anne  
**Homeplace**
This house has been in the family for almost two hundred years. Look closely at the pictures for details that add to the story. See how the family and their “homeplace” changes over the years.  
*Picture Book*

Shulevitz, Uri  
**How I Learned Geography**
A young boy escapes the hunger and misery of life as a Polish refugee during World War II by studying his father’s world map. The story is based on the author’s childhood in Kazakhstan.  
*Picture Book*

Simon, Seymour  
**Tornadoes**
The author explains how and why tornadoes form, how they behave, how scientists predict and track them, and what safety measures should be taken when a tornado is sighted.  
*Nonfiction*

Singer, Marilyn  
**Turtle in July**
The poems in this book describe different animals throughout the year.  
*Poetry*

St. George, Judith  
**Stand Tall Abe Lincoln**
Growing up poor in the backwoods of Kentucky and Indiana, Abraham Lincoln lost his mother before he was ten. Sally Johnston, who married Abe’s father a year later, brought a library of books to their log cabin home and turned young Abe’s life around.  
*Biography*

Steig, William  
**Pete’s a Pizza**
Pete feels miserable because rain makes it impossible to play ball outdoors. So his father finds a fun, indoor game to play with his son.  
*Picture Book*

Steig, William  
**Solomon the Rusty Nail**
Solomon, a spunky young rabbit, can say the “just right” words and turn into a rusty nail anytime. His ability almost ends his growing up!  
*Picture Book*

Stein, David Ezra  
**Interrupting Chicken**
Little Red Chicken wants Papa to read her a bedtime story. Every time he starts reading, she interrupts him!  
*Picture Book*

Stevens, Janet  
**Help Me, Mr. Mutt!**
Dogs across the United States write to Mr. Mutt, a people expert, for help with their humans.  
*Picture Book*

Stone, Tanya Lee  
**Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote**
This inspiring story is about an extraordinary woman who changed America forever because she wouldn’t take no for an answer.  
*Biography*

Stone, Tanya Lee  
**Unique Animals of the Midwest**
Meet the animals that live around us in the Midwest, including the red fox, the blanding turtle, the Indian bat, and the white-tail deer.  
*Nonfiction*
Sweet, Melissa  **Carmine: A Little More Red**  
While a little girl who loves red - and loves to dilly-dally - stops to paint a picture on the way to visit her grandmother, her dog Rufus meets a wolf and leads him directly to Granny's house.  *Picture Book*

Solve these clever rhyming riddles! Look for patterns in the clever pictures and find ways to group numbers so you can solve Tang's engaging math riddles.  *Nonfiction*

Thayer, Ernest  **Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic Sung in the Year 1888**  
Casey is Mudville's last hope to win the championship baseball game of 1888. Can he do it? Read this classic poem and find out. You'll also enjoy the unique illustrations that earned Christopher Bing a Caldecott Honor Medal.  *Poetry*

Thomson, Melissa  **Keena Ford and the Secret Journal Mix-up**  
Keena accidentally leaves her journal in Tiffany's apartment. Will Tiffany reveal all of her secrets?  *Fiction*

Van Allsburg, Chris  **Jumanji**  
On their own for an afternoon, two bored and restless children find more excitement than they bargained for in a jungle adventure board game.  *Fiction*

Walter, Mildred  **Brother to the Wind**  
Emeke has a wish to fly but must overcome the ridicule of his tribe as well as his own fears. The Good Snake helps him.  *Picture Book*

Warner, Gertrude  **The Boxcar Children**  
Runaway children learn to solve their problems creatively. There are many more books in this series.  *Fiction*

Weissner, Carole  **Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom**  
Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery but, like Moses, led others to freedom at the risk of her own life. Illustrator Kadir Nelson won a Caldecott Honor medal for his inspirational paintings.  *Biography*

Wiesner, David  **Flotsam**  
In a wordless book in which the pictures tell the story, a boy finds a camera at the beach and the film inside reveals fascinating pictures of the sea and of children around the world. Wiesner won a Caldecott Medal for this book.  *Picture Book*

Wiesner, David  **The Three Pigs**  
Remember the story of the wolf and the pigs he met? This book might have the same title, but it's a whole new tale, as the first pig is blown right out of the story. His illustrations earned Wiesner the 2002 Caldecott Medal.  *Picture Book*

Williams, Karen Lynn  **When Africa Was Home**  
After returning to the U. S. A., Peter and his family miss Africa’s warmth and friendliness so much that Dad searches for another job in Africa.  *Picture Book*

Williams, Sherley Anne  **Working Cotton**  
A young African-American girl shares the daily labors of her family's migrant life in the cotton fields of central California.  *Picture Book*

Williams, Vera B.  **A Chair for My Mother**  
A child, her waitress mother, and her grandmother save dimes to buy a comfortable armchair after all their furniture is lost in a fire.  *Picture Book*

Winter, Jeanette  **Biblioburro: a True Story from Colombia**  
This is the true story of a devoted man and his burros, Alfa and Beto. They travel to remote villages in Columbia to bring treasured library books to eager young readers.  *Nonfiction*

Winter, Jeannette  **Follow the Drinking Gourd**  
By following the directions in a song taught them by Peg Leg Joe, runaway slaves journeyed north to freedom in Canada.  *Picture Book*

Yolen, Jane  **Johnny Appleseed: the Legend and the Truth**  
In lyrical prose, Jane Yolen tells the whole story of an individual who forever changed the landscape of America.  *Biography*
The mission of the Shaker City Schools Library Media Program is to ensure that all students and staff are effective users of information and ideas.

Strong reading skills are the key to student achievement and lifelong learning. This reading list is intended as an aid in choosing books to provide rich reading experiences for students.

Professional school librarians work with their students—your children—to build strong skills in locating, accessing, and analyzing information. This begins with the retelling of stories in the earliest grades, through the teaching of sophisticated web evaluation strategies for older students. These critical thinking skills will serve students well throughout their school career and beyond. Our goal is to help all children make good selections and learn to judge the quality and intent of information in all formats.

Our libraries also provide online resources for students and families to use, accessible from any Internet connection. You can find them on http://shaker.org using the “Libraries” link, or by going to your school building and clicking the library link there.

Use the “Information / Databases” link to see the online materials we have for school and home use. You can get the access codes needed from your school library staff. For elementary students, we particularly recommend you look at EBSCO Searchasaurus and World Book Online with your child.

We encourage you to use the Shaker Heights Public Library to bring a multitude of good books and reading experiences to your children. They can suggest other great books for you to enjoy, as well as provide events like story hours and their summer reading program.

**Elementary Websites**

If you are looking for more information about good reading for your child, you can also check the following websites.

Reading Rockets http://www.readingrockets.org/audience/parents/ provides a wide variety of materials about books for children and developing reading skills.

Carol Hurst, author and educator, provides a children’s literature website, organized by topics. The “Featured Books” link will take you to long descriptions of her recommended books. The address is http://www.carolhurst.com/

The Internet Public Library provides a wide range of resources for students. See the “Reading Zone” section for sites that feature books and reading activities for elementary age children. http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace/

Shaker Heights Public Library also provides great resources for you to use at home, including resource lists, subject guides and even online books to read. Their kids’ page can be found at http://www.shpl.lib.oh.us/Kids/

For more information about the Shaker Heights Schools Library Media Program, call (216) 295-4180.